

SPREAD OF *MELANOIDES TUBERCULATA*

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The freshwater Asian thiarid, *Melanoides tuberculata* (Müller) is now spreading rapidly southward from United States into Central America. Mrs. Dot Myhre, of Stuart, Florida, has sent us specimens collected in the vicinity of Vera Cruz, Mexico, where the shells are sold by the bagful for making novelties. Dr. Byron N. Chaniotis, of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Canal Zone, collected live specimens in Panama in 1971. The snail, an intermediate host in China for the bile fluke, *Clonorchis sinensis*, arrived in Texas and Florida prior to 1963, and soon thereafter in Puerto Rico. A distributional map showing the range of the species from North Africa to the East Indies prior to 1927 was published by Pilsbry and Bequaert, 1927, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. 53, p. 253.

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 FRESH-WATER MOLLUSKS FROM  
COASTAL VIRGINIA

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The following mollusks were collected from small fresh water creeks and ponds in the independent Cities of Hampton, Newport News and Virginia Beach and York County: *Anodonta cataracta* Say, *Pisidium casertanum* Poli, *Sphaerium occidentale* Prime, *S. partumeium* Say, *Campeloma decisa* Say, *Littoridinops tenuipes* Cooper, *Amnicola limosa* Say, *Pomatopsis lapidaria* Say, *Physa acuta* Draparnaud, *P. heterostropha* Say, *Fossaria humilis* Say, *F. obrussa exigua* Lea, *Pseudosuccinea columella* Say, *Helisoma anceps* Menke, *H. trivolvis* Say, *Planorbula armigera* Say, *P. wheatleyi* Lea, *Gyraulus parvus* Say, *Menetus brogniartianus* Lea, *M. dilatatus* Gould, *M. dilatatus buchanaensis* Lea, *Laevex p. fuscus* C. B. Adams. Material is in the collection of the author.

## MONOGRAPH REVIEW

THE GENUS *SEMELE* IN THE WESTERN ATLANTIC (Semelidae; Bivalvia) by Kenneth J. Boss. Johnsonia, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., Vol. 5, no. 49, pp. 1-32. May 25, 1972.

The taxonomic treatment of the six known living species of Western Atlantic Semelidae is sufficiently good to enable workers to identify their unknown material. The illustrations, descriptions, remarks and locality records are up to the usual standard of previous Johnsonia numbers.

There are, however, a startling number of typographical errors, spelling mistakes, examples of incorrect grammar, and mis-uses of words - at least 97 in only 32 pages. Part of this can be excused because of an improved format of the journal, and a change in printer. Readers should note, however, that the correct spelling for the common semele is *Semele bellostriata* (Conrad), not *bellestriata*, and that the gender of *Semele* is feminine (*lenticularis*, not *lenticulare*, and *solida*, not *solidum*). The geological terms, particularly those such as Group and Formation, seem not to be employed correctly in several places. Some biological terms are mis-used, such as allometric, when allopatric was meant. Scientific names have been hyphenized, contrary to the "Rules", such as *media-americana* on page 11. However, in the synonymy, they should have been retained, instead of eliminated, as on page 9. The author, and editor, of this monograph has the sympathy of fellow editors and malacologists, but we shall all look forward to a more painstaking effort in future numbers. As Dr. Boss recently stated himself in reviewing another bivalve paper (see Jour. Paleontology, Vol. 45, no. 3, p. 558), "In the final analysis, the editorial offices . . . are responsible for publishing a manuscript which was never critically reviewed in a format which was never carefully proofed, and the short-comings are now the affliction of science -- to the embarrassment of all."

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